REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 2, 5, 9 and 12 are amended, new claims 16-58 are added and claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. This Preliminary Amendment is requested to put the divisional application in substantially the same condition as its parent Application No. 09/731,771.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: December 31, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald P. Kananen

Registration No.: 24,104 Attorney for Applicant

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

1233 20th Street, N.W. Suite 501

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel: (202) 955-3750 Fax: (202) 955-3751 Customer No. 23353

Enclosure(s): Four (4) Sheets of Replacement Drawings (FIGS. 1-7)

Four (4) Sheets of Annotated Drawings showing changes (FIGS. 1-7)